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THE MICHIGAN LIBRARIAN

June
1942

Formerly

THE MICHIGAN SCHOOL LIBRARIAN

VOLUME 8
NUMBER 2

Can You Identify These FIRST LINES?

(NO PRIZE; BUT IT'S FUN.)

1. When that Aprille with his shoures soote ✓
2. I thought once how Theocritus had sung
3. Hence, loathèd Melancholy
4. When chapman billies leave the street
5. The curfew tolls the knell of parting day
6. I've taken my fun where I've found it
7. To him who in the love of Nature holds
8. By the rude bridge that arched the flood
9. Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered,
weak and weary
10. Something there is that doesn't love a wall

ANSWERS

Can be found in Granger's Index, but we'll give them to you here:

1. Prologue to the Canterbury Tales, Geoffrey Chaucer
2. Sonnets from the Portuguese, Elizabeth Barrett Browning
3. L'Allegro, John Milton
4. Tom O'Shanter, Robert Burns
5. Elegy Written in a Country Church-yard, Thomas Gray
6. The Ladies, Rudyard Kipling
7. Theocritus, William Cullen Bryant
8. Concord Hymn, Ralph Waldo Emerson
9. The Raven, Edgar Allan Poe
10. Mending Wall, Robert Frost

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THE MICHIGAN LIBRARIAN

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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1942

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The Community In Action

ONE healthy sign in recent times has been the gradual breakdown of the high walls between professional institutions and the lay public. We have noticed it in education where some schools have begun to produce broad educational programs for the whole community. Some librarians have reoriented their program and many churches are changing their work and emphasis. Institutions are attempting to become functional.

As professional groups, with understandable pride in our various institutions, we have a tendency to be a bit smug about this. We "condescend to serve" on the grass roots level. In reality, it is a fight for very existence. Make no mistake about this. Unless these public service institutions show real contact with the people and their actual problems, they will be cast out—out now because of stringent reductions; out in the post-war reconstruction period because of their record just when, paradoxically enough, their potentialities are largest.

The first thing which we all have to do is to accept new methods of working with lay people, at their level and in a way they can understand and appreciate. In this connection, the present resurgence of interest in community councils is of import. Recognizing that they can and must solve their own problems by coöperative effort, many communities have called together representatives of every group in the area. These representatives meet together for a consideration of local problems and program. At its best, a community council is a gathering of the clan, much in the form of a New England meeting. A total approach to all aspects of the community living is stimulated. We know community councils are of value; they are producing results.

In this connection, two aspects are of especial importance for librarians. First, every community council needs the help and advice of experts. Sometimes these experts are of flesh and blood. Sometimes they are printed materials, pictures or slides which the library can provide. People are in need of guidance and of assurance that there are solutions to their problems. The library can serve as a storehouse of examples, collect vital information, subscribe to pertinent periodicals, and provide displays. In addition, the library staff, as interested and enlightened citizens, can help in person. Their occupation has enabled them to build up a reserve of knowledge about their communities which few other professional workers obtain.

Second for librarians, there is the problem of utilizing the democratic discussion method of problem solving and planning so that actual accomplishment results. It is not easy. The lay personalities involved must be schooled in social discussion. Unpleasant but glaring is the fact that, as a nation, we have lost the traditional American folk way—talking it over and coöperatively working out our problems. Instead, we resort to strikes and lockouts, accept blindly patterns supplied by social isolates, or fall back on name-calling and brickbats over issues of national importance or a housing project for Negroes. It is a matter of necessity, not of choice, that we change our path and learn how to share information, experiences, and plans through discussion. The alternative is accepting the thesis that we, as a people, are unable to determine our own destiny.

There is a responsibility for every professional group to act as leaven in this

process of learning how to work together. As the war strain increases and social hysterias begin their malignant growth, it will be even more imperative that professional groups act. This means preparation. It is not an easy shift to make from classroom to community, from pulpit to parish, or from bookshelves to people. Some of us will prefer to make excuses and talk rationalizations which will be lost as we are passed by.

WILLIAM C. MORSE
Adult Education Program
University of Michigan

PEOPLE in your community want to do something about winning victory and strengthening democracy in this crisis. The excitement of the times creates in them an eagerness to "do something about it." Some are making direct contributions to victory by military service, by producing munitions, or by active protection at home. Not all of your community can function in these capacities, nor do these services make the best use of the abilities of many citizens who want to help.

But they can help! They know that this is total war, the whole structure of democracy versus dictatorship. They know that victory in the battle is mockery if it does not provide a type of community life where human needs are met as fully as possible. They know, too, that war creates serious problems as we try to live together harmoniously. These facts have sparked your neighbors to action. They want to keep democracy virile and alert by continuing to meet unfinished business all around them. They realize that constructive efforts to adjust local community problems are a vital part of this total war effort. They realize that democracy is the sum of its effective parts; in short, that this war begins at home.

The best way for them to go to work is through active efforts in the organization to which they belong. But it isn't enough for the organizations themselves to get busy. Unless they know what other groups are doing, unless they can exchange ideas and determine overlapping areas of effort, unless they help the official Defense Councils, and unless they supplement the active protective phases of home defense, you will find several groups working on the same thing and nobody at all working on something equally as important.

... a democratic way of coördinating local efforts is through the community council.

ALVIN F. ZANDER
Research Assistant, Extramural Services
University of Michigan

The above editorial is quoted from the pages of *The Community Council in Defense*, Bulletin No. 3036, Instruction Service Series, published by the Department of Public Instruction, Lansing. This bulletin is a discussion of a democratic way of coördinating local efforts through the community council.

The war emergency requires an expansion and adaptation to new needs. Libraries should not be slow in assuming their full measure of responsibility with other institutions in an energetic community leadership. By participation, by coöperation, let us work toward the victorious conclusion of war and the reestablishment of an order of reason and common understanding.

EDITOR

THE TRUSTEE, HIS DUTIES and RESPONSIBILITIES

By CECIL J. McHALE

LIBRARY trustees are held of no more consequence, by some governmental streamliners, than the vestigial hind leg of the whale or the embryonic tail of the human infant. The day of the independent lay board is past. The board is an impediment in the path of progress. It stands between the governmental administrator and the quick and direct accomplishment of administrative decision. So runs the burden of much of the newer thought on governmental efficiency. Fortunately, it is always possible to find experts to contradict the experts; and, inasmuch as there do happen to be authorities who hold that the library board, at least, still has a valuable contribution to make—and particularly since library boards haven't as yet been totally banished by law—trustees are safe for the time being, at all events.

Now the lay board, the library board made up of laymen, has, in more than one crucial instance, done precisely what it has been criticized for doing—standing between the governmental administrator and the quick and direct accomplishment of administrative decision. Such decision might possibly have meant the end of the library, were it not for a board of trustees, legally independent of a hostile administration, and act-

ing as a buffer between the library and direct executive action. Hence it is that the board is called an "independent board" and is sometimes referred to as a "buffer board." The foregoing, patently, is but a negative argument in favor of the lay board of trustees, but it is a potent one, nonetheless.

LEGAL DUTIES OF TRUSTEES

Boards of trustees have certain legal duties and responsibilities. These are prescribed by state law or by home rule charter and are substantially the following:

1. Trustees hold title to all library property. They are responsible for the purchase and upkeep of all library buildings, grounds, and equipment.
2. Trustees receive, hold, invest, or spend all library monies. They are empowered to receive gifts, in many instances to set the library tax rate, and to approve the budget and all requests for appropriations.
3. Trustees have the authority to hire and fire. They fix the salaries of all library employees and the terms of employment.
4. Trustees are responsible for the selection and purchase of books and other library materials.

In addition to certain miscellaneous duties and responsibilities, the trustees are finally empowered to lay down rules and regulations necessary and expedient for the operation of the library.

These are often spoken of as the "usual" powers and are held by the board as a whole, but not by the board as individuals.

TEMPTATIONS OF POWER

You will recall that "the Grand Monarch," Louis XIV of France, in settling once and for all any lurking question as to who was boss in the French nation, said modestly, "*L'état c'est moi*," which, translated literally, means "The state, that's me." Well, within certain limits of appointment and

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EDITOR'S NOTE: *The library trustee has more than a legal trust in these times of growing emphasis upon community coöperative thinking and action. He represents not only a public service institution to the people of his community, but also the people and their problems to the library. This positive responsibility is emphasized by Prof. McHale of the University of Michigan Library Science Department in his talk before the Institute for Library Trustees of Eaton, Calhoun, and Branch Counties held under the joint auspices of the University of Michigan and the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, at Ann Arbor, March 1-6 1942.*

tenure, the board of trustees can say with equal authority and equal modesty, "The library, that's us." Thus it is that, intoxicated by this heady brew of power, now and then a trustee with drive and ideas, or a predatory and managerial disposition, finds it an irresistible temptation to step in and run the library, the librarian, and everything else.

Seriously, this is a delicate problem and one frequently encountered. For, in practice, the board is a policy-forming body which delegates to the librarian direct responsibility for management and for the carrying out of the policies which it lays down. In the broad view, the board calls the tune and the librarian executes the figure.

However, when the librarian is of mediocre caliber—is a person of little imagination, breadth, energy, or of plain, practical and business horse-sense—there is the temptation on the part of the trustee who does have these qualities (or thinks he does) to jump in and run the show. It is difficult for him to refrain from both calling the tune and cutting the figure. The logical solution to this difficulty is, of course, to get rid of such a librarian and hire someone else who is good. To be sure, there are difficulties here also, as every experienced trustee knows. Not a little depends on what kind of library personnel the board is willing to pay for and what inducements to superior ability it is willing and able to offer in the way of coöperation, facilities to work with in the present, and promises for the future. This is the same problem faced by the schools, the churches, and, in fact, most other enterprises, both public and private.

TRUSTEE INDIFFERENCE

On the other hand, sometimes the shoe is on the other foot. And as there are rubber, china, or wooden-doll librarians, so are there wooden-Indian trustees. To change the figure, they won't get off the nest nor yet will they lay an egg. Suffice it to say that "hold-fast" may be the best dog but "hold-fast" is not the best trustee—the trustee who literally holds in trust, who merely "trustees."

Provided with such a board of trustees, a librarian with enthusiasm, capacity, and a

professionally progressive outlook runs "smack up" against a mass of trustee indifference and reaction. This situation is often reminiscent of the tar baby in Uncle Remus—he wouldn't talk and he wouldn't budge, and when B'r'er Rabbit tried to make him by butting him, his paws and finally his head, just sank in and stuck there. And while the board can get rid of a bad librarian, a good librarian cannot get rid of a bad board. All that he can do is one of three things: try to educate the board and "sell" the library and its possibilities to it; or knuckle down and trim his suit to fit the board cloth; or fold up his tent and get out.

POSITIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

Now, for those trustees who are "good" trustees and whom, we will assume, have good librarians, what is there for you to do, then, besides plain "trustee" in the legal sense of the term? Well, there is plenty.

First, there is the necessity of understanding just what a public library is and what its purpose and objectives are. This will require reading, study, and discussion on your part. And when this much is done, it is absolutely essential that you locate, define, and understand the library with respect to your own community—where it stands in relation to the schools and the educational program, to the local government and its program, to the churches, to the social, cultural, service, and other groups, and in relation to plain John Q. Citizen himself. This can be done only on the basis of a thoroughgoing study of the community. Not only should the library be located and defined as it stands, but as you think it *ought* to be, especially in line with what it reasonably *can* be, considering local financial ability, community potentialities, and the possibility of aid and coöperation from state and county. In short, a program should be worked out as a plan of action, a rod to measure progress by—utterly realistic, if you will, but also liberal and progressive. I can imagine more than one engrossing session of the board and the librarian devoted to this problem.

Not only does the board hold library funds in trust and approve expenditures for ascer-

(Continued on Page 22)

THE LIBRARY'S RELATION to the WORLD CRISIS

By LAURA K. MARTIN

OUR enemies have provided us with abundant assurance that books influence action as well as thought and have a significant role in formulating national policy. Adolf Hitler has not only written two books which all patriotic Germans must read, but one of his first acts on coming into power was to burn scores of books considered non-Aryan, non-National Socialist, or non-something else. That Japan's fiercest air attacks have often been centered upon universities and libraries of China has been attested by foreign as well as Chinese observers. Hitler and Hirohito both know that a people lacking the tools of learning are a people disarmed of a comprehensive defense.

They, and our own censors who in the last war asked libraries to remove from their shelves all books on peace, have not been worried about the abstract thinkers who bury themselves in books. Rather, their course is positive evidence of a general recognition that men's actions are to a significant degree the result of their reading.

Libraries as storehouses, not of literature in a narrow sense, but of energy to move the world, are just coming into their own. And to that coming of age, no person has given greater impetus than Archibald MacLeish. He has expressed his challenge to libraries



EDITOR'S NOTE: *Speaking before the luncheon meeting of the School Library Conference of the Michigan Schoolmasters' Club at Ann Arbor on April 24, Miss Martin, Associate Professor of Library Science at the University of Kentucky, pointed out the need of building honest book collections and of developing a judicious attitude toward reading as the foundation upon which we must build for peace. Although addressed to school librarians, there is much to challenge the attention of public librarians in Miss Martin's discussion.*

in different ways and at different times. Typical are these sentences from a speech made in Pittsburgh just after he had taken his post as Librarian of Congress:

"Libraries are," he says, "the only institutions in the United States capable of dealing with the contemporary crisis in American life in terms and under conditions which give promise of success. They are the only institutions in American life capable of opening to the citizens of the Republic a knowledge of the wealth and richness of the culture which a century and a half of democratic life has produced."¹

LIBRARIES RESPOND TO EMERGENCY

I know that you have been impressed by the public library's response to the emergency which has been tremendous and inspiring—not only the provision of technical books in great numbers, the setting up of information centers to answer pressing questions about the work of the air raid warden, the leader of the demolition squad, the first-aid administrator, and other services which we pray we shall never need, but work antedating December 7—forums, discussion groups, exhibits. An exhibit prepared at the Des Moines Iowa Public Library several years ago seems to me should be widely imitated. It was labelled "Your letter may be more important than your vote" and told the proper form of address in writing a congressman, giving the names of representatives from all local districts. This sort of thing, which implements the processes of democracy so effectively, could be copied in high schools or junior colleges, where our people are quite near the voting age. Letter campaigns instituted by selfish interests should not blind us to the value of letters. We must help the public to get over the im-

¹ *Libraries in the Contemporary Crisis*. Washington, U. S. Govt. Print. Off., 1939.

pression that only cranks write letters to their newspapers and their congressmen. We can do this by encouraging students and friends to write discerning comments on issues under fire.

We must bring to any survey of books and libraries in wartime a plentiful supply of common sense and good judgment. Mr. Ralph Munn of Pittsburgh, in a recent visit to Lexington, sounded a corrective note which I pass on to you. He said that our first duty to our country in time of war is as good citizens, not as members of any special group—farmers, laborers, manufacturers, teachers, or librarians. We must know what libraries cannot do, and we must not assume that the war can be won with books.

Winning the peace is another matter, and rests directly upon the foundation we are building right now by intelligent use of printed materials in our schools. This long-range program cannot be curtailed without threatening disaster.

JUDICIOUS ATTITUDE TOWARD READING NEEDED

The development of a judicious attitude toward our reading in newspapers, books, and magazines, is an objective which the librarian should regard with seriousness. Just how she can work with students to this end depends upon the situation in her own school. Every librarian can help, though, by providing such books as Edgar Dale's *How to Read a Newspaper*, in which description of technical processes is not allowed to outweigh real issues in newspaper publishing. I believe this book to be an essential purchase for any school attempting to equip its students to face real problems after graduation.

If lessons in the use of the library are given by the librarian, they ought to begin with an exercise in how to look at the individual book, and ought to include something more than that the table of contents is in the front of the book and the index in the back. I always find students who believe everything they see in print, and who have no means for determining whether the content of a volume is well organized, or whether the author's reasoning is at all logical. Again, most students tell me that the

style of many magazines is purely reportorial, that no social or political bias is apparent, and they tell me this about everything from the *Saturday Evening Post* through *Scribner-Commentator* to the *New Republic*.

BUILD HONEST BOOK COLLECTIONS

Instruction in the attitudes and purposes of printed matter, must, like charity, begin at home. We are too often told in professional schools that we can solve the whole problem of controversial issues by giving arguments and presenting literature on both sides of the question. That phrase "on both sides" is used so very glibly! For too often "making material on both sides available" justifies the provision of an overwhelming proportion of literature on the side of whatever is in that community, be it religious, social, or political mores, and then, for a dash of the dramatic, a single copy of *Building America* or one book of Stuart Chase. Since none of our libraries can include all books on any subject, book selection is always a part of library work, and, unless we are very much on our guard, selectivity will be exercised in the direction of providing what we consider "safe" because it will not antagonize the articulate in our community.

How many of us would really dare to bring to our libraries a fair collection of newspapers published by pacifists, the Christian front, the Communist party or labor organizations? And yet, can the interests of a democracy be better served by thorough reading and critical discussion of these papers under intelligent direction, or by a blanket condemnation of all such literature as subversive propaganda? An honest answer to this question is essential to effective planning. Clever propaganda—and only the clever sort is effective—is not at all a collection of pure lies. It much more often begins with citation of facts and figures whose accuracy is unquestioned, and draws from those truthful statements erroneous and misleading conclusions. It is this point where truth and falsehood part company which we must teach students to find. We are dealing all the time with students who have these papers and others in their homes, and who are not exposed there to intelligent criticism

of them. Why not a fair statement that there are many hundreds of periodicals in America which frankly express the opinions of a particular group of people—college alumni, Rotarians, labor, Chambers of Commerce; that there is nothing sinister in the presentation of the special interests of these organizations; and that our concern is when they become pressure groups urging action in opposition to the interests of society as a whole?

We must recognize our own prejudices and limitations as a first step in the building of an honest book collection. Professor Gottschalk in the *Evaluation of Historical Writings* says, "The writer who thinks he has no philosophy of history or who believes he is objective, unless he is more than human, is self-deceived and therefore more likely to deceive others than if he were deliberately lying."² I believe this to be true in fully equal measure of librarians and teachers. The *Monthly Letter* of the Institute of Propaganda Analysis has ceased publication, but I am hoping that their pamphlets on recognizing and dealing with propaganda will still be freely available. This Institute, operating from Columbia University, has been instrumental in creating a vastly more intelligent response to public questions. It has helped many of us to teach students what propaganda is and is not. And we shall have increasing need for guidance in the months to come, for we may expect ever greater waves of conflicting propaganda as issues grow tense in the formulation of peace aims.

CHOOSE BOOKS ON VITAL ISSUES

After we have done our best to build an honest book collection, the next thing is to be as honest in its use. Many libraries have on their shelves Henry Wallace's *America Must Choose* and Herbert Hoover's *Challenge to Liberty* side by side. I venture to guess that each of you knows without a moment's hesitation which of these you would give to the student who asks for a discussion of domestic issues of 1933 and 1934. What seems to me important is that whichever book we give him, we tell him about

the other. If he will not read both, at least he will leave the library knowing that there is another viewpoint.

Many high school libraries will have on their shelves Barnes' *America in Transition*, Lundberg's *America's 60 Families*, Arnold's *Folklore of Capitalism* and Snyder's *Capitalism the Creator*. Each of these presents an entirely different attitude toward the rise of our industrial system and its future. Mr. Snyder, for example, says, "Deep is the prejudice against avarice and thirst for gain. And yet they are literally the most beneficent forces in modern society." Mr. Lundberg and Mr. Arnold show us how the thirst for gain has often masqueraded under high-sounding trappings of altruism and philanthropy, and Mr. Barnes gives us a picture of an America in transition from a power economy to control of machinery by society.

Books on Russia, on science, on isolation, on any number of other burning questions must be the subject of very careful examination, selection, and use. We, like the historian, are all making choices, and I believe we should consciously choose books which open issues vital to this crisis.

TAKE TIME FOR EVALUATION

Building a book collection of this caliber requires time—more time than most librarians have—time, and thought, and the application of all the techniques of evaluation known to our profession. Few lists shed light upon the viewpoint of the writer. The *Book Review Digest* is often more informative than the brief annotations found in library aids, valuable as are the latter in suggesting titles and giving general outlines of the scope.

I am distressed to see how many school librarians take pride in a nicely arranged library, have colorful bulletin boards and flowers in appropriate vases, and yet are a little proud of the last-minute rush to get the book order together. Sometimes this rush means only the scramble to assemble ordering data and get the lists typed; but too often it means that the actual decision on titles was made in that last-minute hurry.

The school librarian is not always to blame. Too many of us, and too many administrators, have not yet been willing to

² Wilson, L. R. *Practice of Book Selection*. Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1940. p. 105.

provide the labor saving devices available to every school with an average budget. For example, printed catalog cards even though they must be adapted, make possible an adequate number of analytic cards to carry on the close correlation with classroom units we all want to effect, complete indexing of compilations of all sorts, and more subject cards for fiction.

I should also like to see more books sent to the bindery and fewer mended page by page in the average library. Some librarians can train students to do beautiful mending without spending much time on it themselves, but for most of them, recasing and page by page repair mean hours of time better spent on book selection. Like leatherwork or wood-carving, binding and casing of books is a craft worth learning, but it has too large a place in the program of many libraries.

KEEP BOOK COLLECTION UP-TO-DATE

Keeping the book collection in good shape to meet the demands upon it involves, as all of you know, many more procedures than I have discussed. Intelligent discarding is of prime importance, and here we have to educate our principals as well as ourselves. Many books whose physical condition is excellent ought more certainly to be discarded than some of the wornout aviation or mystery stories. Many libraries have on their shelves vocational books which describe a world as dead as the dodo. Any vocational book published before 1930, and most of them up to 1936, are full of misinformation, and are more surely in need of removal from the shelves than anything else we possess. Some of the books on science, physical and social, belong in this category. Let us have courage to keep our book collections up to date!

CONTINUE NORMAL OBJECTIVES

What then, is the library's relation to the present crisis, and what is our job in the midst of it? First is that daily routine so irksome and yet so necessary—the business which engages educators in war and in peace time—of training young people to be wholesome and effective adults, with skill enough to succeed in a vocation or manage

an efficient home, information enough to vote intelligently and to participate in community affairs, and emotional resources with which to meet tragedy and disappointment.

The well worn stage phrase "the show must go on" applies to us all now; while we are private citizens, doing well the things we have to do anyway, is our first job. An alert citizenry which cannot be stampeded into labor-baiting, nor lulled into passive acceptance of programs which make the interests of one group paramount in an emergency confronting us all, which demands that submerged races be given opportunity to serve their country, which insists upon humane treatment for aliens who must be removed from their homes, which makes its desires known to its congressmen, which commends as well as attacks—this is the unromantic but powerful bulwark against that break through on our home front which Mr. Hitler has so often designated as his trump card in the United States. We must have faith as Thomas Mann had faith when he saw, even after Hitler's rise to power and the deepening gloom of the past few years, the coming victory of democracy.

And because we are dealing with permanent and universal truths between the covers of books, our daily job does not change much; it is to sustain, to encourage, to inspire our patrons with the best books at our disposal, distributed according to our best judgment.

Above all, we should realize that we are in a key position to help humanity clarify the issues in this most crucial of all crucial eras.

NEW BOOK LIST ISSUED

"Keep 'Em Rolling!"

Timely books on automobiles and internal combustion engines are included on the new book list, *Keep 'Em Rolling!* just issued by the Michigan State Library. A copy will be included in a packet of poster and pamphlet material on discussion groups being sent to smaller Michigan libraries by the M.L.A. Adult Education Committee. Libraries not receiving the packet may have a copy of the list, while the supply lasts, by writing the Michigan State Library at Lansing.

RESEARCH NEEDS *and* LIBRARY FACILITIES

By HERBERT F. KRIEGE

IN dealing with a compound subject such as "Research Needs and Library Facilities," the researcher obviously considers the needs of research; the librarian, the special facilities of his library. It is quite possible, as the researcher outlines his needs, for the librarian mentally to supply the answer and thus make it possible for them both to arrive at some sort of a debit-credit balance.

The researcher needs the facilities of a library for several apparent reasons, among them the following:

1. *To obtain ideas.* Completed ideas are the greatest achievement of the human mind. Ideas need not necessarily work in order to be good, since change in time or condition may correct that situation.

2. *To browse in other fields.* Ideas in the minds of researchers are usually not only "fuzzy," to use a photographer's expression, but by comparison are actually long-haired in their early form. Most of them need a surprising amount of dressing down before any work can actually be done on them. General reading greatly aids at that point, as the recorded trials and mistakes are observed and studied in the available literature.

3. *To uncover the near successes.* Very often ideas have been partially successful, but have been blocked by some discordant factor, which with a slight improvement in approach



EDITOR'S NOTE: *The rapidly increasing number of plants engaged in defense production which may make new and unusual demands on small and medium-sized libraries in connection with research work lends a particularly interesting timeliness to this summary of a talk given by Dr. Kriege before the Cleveland chapter, Special Library Association, at the meeting of the Ohio Library Association held in Toledo, October 17, 1941. The author is Technical Director of the France Stone Company, Toledo.*

or technique may make the ideas workable. It is much easier to improve upon a suggestion than it is to originate a new concept.

4. *To conserve energy.* Before research work is actually begun, much library work should be done to learn what is already known about the subject. Thus useless duplication is avoided. Such duplication is often considered a serious crime in academic circles; to wit, the refusal of higher institutions of learning in granting advanced degrees to candidates whose works show too much similarity or some duplication with work already done and recorded.

RESEARCH PROBLEMS

While research problems vary with each industry, certain generalities can be made. Thus we find that most of the problems classify themselves into one of the following groups:

1. The improvement in present products or methods of production.

2. The discovery of new methods and production processes.

3. The substitution of materials for those long considered standard. This item is obviously of considerable importance at times of national stress such as the present.

4. The simplification of production methods. I feel that this point deserves further emphasis for its pedagogical value, since too often the students in our scientific courses are taught to honor unduly the highly involved apparatus or procedure, when more often their life's work will demand that they learn how to do the comparatively simple things more easily and economically, or more simply.

5. The development of operations on a full scale which research has suggested as being possible. The pathway of technical progress is strewn with the skeletons of ideas that worked admirably under laboratory control, but which were inadequate when translated to plant production in which unskilled labor

and large mechanical units predominate, and in which economical values are paramount.

6. The adjustment of products and materials to society, or vice versa. Time and again we see the incongruous situation of a social need and no proper way of satisfying that need with our present knowledge. The reverse is also true, that many a discovery or invention which is patently correct and successful from the scientific point of view, must wait unused until a need is felt for the products that have been so adroitly fashioned or until established methods and materials can be adapted for its safe and economic use.

In citing the breadth of the field in which the researcher of a crude product finds himself, I feel compelled to raise the question of the extent to which the researcher need immerse himself in the library resources available to him. There is one classic example in my experience of a graduate student preparing for his Master of Science thesis in a subject that was quite new to most of us at the time. To be specific, it dealt with the effect which polarized light may have on the crystallization habits of certain salts, in tending to disturb the usual balance between the crystal forms which are mirror images of each other, but in all other respects alike. This man devoted three-fourths of his academic time to getting his bibliography completed before the actual laboratory investigation was begun, and by the end of his search for previous work on the subject, he had read and reviewed twenty-two hundred references. Obviously, this kind of thoroughness is not always needed and is certainly seldom shown, but it does give the uninitiated some idea of what may be required to exhaust thoroughly the present literature on any subject.

REFERENCES

To attempt to record a list of references which will satisfy most conditions in the research field would be utterly foolish. However, gratitude to certain fountains of information leads me to mention several sources which have proven most fruitful in the field of research in the mineral industries. The following are listed without any thought as to the order of their importance:

1. Handbooks of chemistry and physics,

critical tables, etc., which form the backdrop for nearly any scientific work.

2. Specifications—industrial, state, federal, etc., which control the end products desired, both positive and negative.

3. Publications of technical societies, especially those of the American Society for Testing Materials and similar groups in other countries.

4. Trade journals in the special fields.

5. Patent literature.

6. The compilations of individual men, of whom J. W. Mellor is among the greatest in the physical and chemical sciences. In honor of this man's thoroughness, I am pleased to record that my experience has usually been to begin my bibliographical search by reading what J. W. Mellor has to say on the subject, then to read as widely elsewhere as time permits, and to close with Mellor.

COORDINATION OF RESEARCH TO PRODUCTION

It is one of the amazing and disturbing truths in scientific work that mass production often precedes research, and that by a considerable span of years. As late as 1926, studies were being instituted at one of our few aeronautical research fields to determine what stresses the various parts of an airplane attain in flight. Not until 1941 do we find the first fundamental work being done on the compressive strength which common glass containers, like bottles, develop in their vertical position. Only recent years produced a method by which builders and buyers of concrete might ascertain the amount of Portland cement used in a given structure or pavement to determine its durability.

These simple illustrations should show that the researcher's work often follows industrial and manufacturing practices rather than providing the leadership in these same fields. Obviously, staggering losses of human effort and materials have accompanied the unscientific trial and error methods by which many industrial processes have been forced to go. It is quite apparent that there is a place for the research mind and the trained technician in many of the more prosaic and commonplace industrial fields where observations are yet to be made and relationships shown,

(Continued on Page 24)



Barbara Frances Fleury

Barbara Frances Fleury Publishes First Novel

"Faith the Root"

and advisor to those in trouble, but mostly an interested friend to any one in any walk of life in the village of Algonquin. His sincere devotion to God, blended with a keen interest in all of God's children makes him a devout, practical man sensitive to everyday problems. The butcher, the barber, the newspaperman, the banker, the Lutheran minister as well as many others both Catholic and Protestant value his friendship and look to him for advice. He is charming because in his simple earthy practicality are blended bits of philosophy, mysticism, humor, dreaminess, loneliness.

WITH two successful juvenile books to her credit and numerous short stories, Barbara Frances Fleury makes her debut this month as the author of *Faith the Root*, a first novel, published by Dutton and chosen as the June selection of the Catholic Book Club.

Librarian of the Wilson Intermediate School in Detroit, Miss Fleury has been active in the school library group of the Metropolitan area and has served the State Executive Board of School Librarians as its chairman. She is a native Detroit, a University of Michigan graduate, and a member of the summer staff of the Bread Loaf, Vermont, Writers' Conference, in charge of writing for children.

Miss Fleury's friends are noting with pleasure the appearance of favorable reviews of her book, and looking forward with anticipation to its reading. *The Michigan Librarian* extends its congratulations to the author, a former member of its editorial staff.

FAITH THE ROOT A STORY OF CHARACTER

THIS is a beautifully told story of the life of a Catholic priest in a small Michigan river town. Father Germain is a mild and gentle old man, largely a trusted councilor

We gradually learn about Father Germain's youth and early French background in a series of flashbacks scattered throughout the book. In contrast to the detailed descriptions of his everyday life in Algonquin, the flashbacks are hazy and sketchy, the dreams of an old man longing to go back home. Because even though his people love him and he is profoundly interested in them, his roots are in France; and the urge to return slowly becomes an irresistible necessity and finally something of an obsession. The slow development of this urge culminating in the intense and deeply sympathetic denouement is the profoundest and most moving thing in the book. Here is Miss Fleury's finest writing.

There is no plot. Continuity and progression depend on a series of loosely knit episodes in the life of the priest and the villagers. Father Jerry in his gentle way dominates the whole book. Other characters are described just enough to show their relationship to him. It is just as if a steady stream of village folk crossed the stage before the eyes of the reader for just a moment. Children, young people, workers, rich folk, step up for a moment into the limelight, then fade away. Only a very few appear again

and these attain a lifelike quality only when they are directly in contact with the priest.

Of the minor characters, Emma, the priest's housekeeper, and Peter, the newspaperman, are perhaps the most outstanding. One wonders if the problems between Father Jerry and Mr. Schultz, the Lutheran minister, are not too easily settled to be convincing even though a firm friendship exists between the two men. The setting, life in a typical Michigan river town, is accurate, but lacks somehow the spark of vi-

talinity to make it real.

There are no heroics nor dramatics in the life of the mild and gentle old priest, and there are none in the novel. The priest himself is beautifully drawn. He stands out against a too simple and sketchy background. The author's achievement lies in having drawn a character who is the essence of goodness and at the same time a delightful personality.

BERNADINE MENTLIKOWSKI
Detroit Public Library

Catholic Library Association Organizes Michigan Chapter

THE Michigan chapter of the Catholic Library Association was organized at a meeting attended by 400 persons at Marygrove College, Sunday, March 29. Representatives from Catholic universities, colleges and high schools of Detroit, Plymouth, Adrian, and Grand Rapids attended; and guests included members of the Detroit Public Library Staff, George A. Gilfillan, President, Michigan Chapter of the Special Libraries Association, and Ruth Gerbig, President of the Van Antwerp Library. Sister Marie Virginia, Librarian, Marygrove College, presided as acting chairman.

An address "Libraries as Cultural Centers" was delivered by the guest speaker, The Reverend John F. Finnegan, S.T.D., Ph.D., Chaplain of the Newman School, Lakewood, N.J. The speaker stressed the fact that during the last four or five decades, libraries have failed to serve as cultural centers because of the materialism pervading the literature that has found place on their shelves.

The Very Reverend Edward J. Hickey, Chancellor of the Archdiocese, cited Catholic library progress in Detroit during the past decade, high points of which are the grant of the Carnegie Corporation to Marygrove College Library; the development of the Van Antwerp circulating library whose librarians are Ruth Gerbig and Mary Schutz; the publication of the "Guide to the Encyclicals of the Roman Pontiffs," by Sister M. Claudia, I.H.M., Assistant Librarian, Mary-

grove College, and "Guide to Catholic Literature," by Walter Romig.

The objectives of the new chapter, in addition to those applying to the interests of Catholic libraries and librarians, include many to which all Michigan librarians subscribe heartily. It is thrilling to know that a large and enthusiastic organization will work concertedly for such purposes as promoting esteem for books as tools of education; promoting better and wider reading by high and elementary school students and preparing bibliographies and book lists for that purpose; promoting library training of teachers and pupils at all educational levels; encouraging the creation and development of elementary school libraries; effecting increase in intelligent, persistent, consistent, sincere use of public libraries by Catholics.

Officers elected were: Sister Marie Virginia, I.H.M., Librarian of Marygrove College, Chairman; Reverend Marshall L. Lochbiler, S.J., Librarian of the University of Detroit, Vice-Chairman; Ruth Gerbig, President of the Van Antwerp Library, Secretary-Treasurer.

Plans are being made to call the next meeting at the Immaculata High School sometime in September. If possible, a tentative draft of the constitution to be proposed for consideration and voting at that meeting will be sent to all members of the National Association living in Michigan and to all who signify a desire to become members.

Flora B. Roberts Retires From Active Service

AFTER twenty-four years of service to the Kalamazoo Public Library, its staff, and the people and institutions of Kalamazoo, Flora B. Roberts, Librarian, will retire from active duty July 1, 1942, her professional and civic activities crowned by an announcement that Kalamazoo College will confer a Master of Arts degree upon her on the first of June.

Miss Roberts is Michigan born, receiving her public school education in Michigan and her library training at Drexel Institute with the class of 1899. She has been assistant cataloger at the libraries of the University of Pennsylvania and Northwestern University; assistant instructor at Drexel Institute Library School; cataloger, Michigan State Library; and has held the post of librarian at the State Normal College, Warrensburg, Missouri, and the public libraries of Pottsville, Pennsylvania and of Kalamazoo. She served the Michigan Library Association as secretary in 1904 and as president in 1921-22, as well as chairman of important committees through which she has made many and valuable contributions to the profession. As a member of the American Library Association, she has given much of her time and attention to professional committees and programs, stimulating her colleagues and raising library standards. She has also served on many committees of national organizations closely allied with the library world. Through all these professional activities, she has come to be recognized as an excellent executive and an authority in several fields.

In 1918 when Miss Roberts was called to Kalamazoo, she inherited a central building, three branches, and four school stations, all of which needed reorganization to bring them up to current library practices and standards. Today, the Kalamazoo Public Library, recognized from coast to coast, from Canada to Mexico, embraces a central library, a library house which houses the art department and museum, five branches, six



Flora B. Roberts

school stations, classroom libraries, and an extension service covering five hospitals, fire stations and the Merrill Home. Her pioneer work done in visual education has made the museum outstanding in its field. She has been instrumental in presenting the needs of the library and its services so favorably that gifts amounting to over forty-five thousand dollars in addition to valuable paintings and objects of art, thousands of books and magazines, have been received during her regime.

One of the truly great accomplishments of Miss Roberts' career has been her guiding influence upon the untrained assistants on her various staffs. Through her comradeship and inspiration, twenty-eight persons have entered and graduated from specialized training in library schools and now hold responsible positions throughout the country. Her exceptional personality and character have thus not only commanded the loyalty and love of her associates but have been a pertinent factor in the shaping of many lives. Her presence in the library and in library meetings has stimulated the sense of power and self-esteem of all those who have been privileged to know her and see her in action. She has that rare faculty of recognizing ability in others, of making others feel she believes in them and expects them to do their best

which arouses a belief in themselves and lifts them out of the commonplace and on to the road to success. Fortunate indeed are those who have had the opportunity to bask in the warmth of her humanity.

Flora B. Roberts, the blessings and good

wishes of all your professional associates go with you for the enjoyment of the leisure you have earned and the richness you have accumulated through the years.

FRANCES A. HANNUM, *Librarian*
Ann Arbor Public Library

Victory Gardening in the Grand Rapids Public Library

WHEN Secretary of Agriculture Claude Wickard said, "Food will win the war and write the peace," no doubt his words were the inspiration for many to turn their thoughts toward the possibility of planting a Victory Garden. At any rate they were responsible for the one that sprouted up this spring in the center of the lobby of the Grand Rapids Public Library. According to many reports, the sight of real green things growing in such an unusual spot, under most adverse growing conditions, was an inspiration and a delight. Many children came to see it to get an idea for planting a garden at their schools.

The miniature garden was planted in an oblong flat three by five feet. A layer of peat moss in the bottom of the flat held moisture, then a good enriched soil was added, and the plot allowed to stand for several days before planting. A path of tiny stones, two inches wide, divided the lawn and vegetable areas and led to the lily pond (sunken circular mirror) upon which floated minute star flowers perched on huckleberry leaves, all watched over by a graceful white swan. Miniature red, white, and blue chairs were placed invitingly upon the lawn near an inch high table which supported a tiny American flag. A rock garden showing gay flowers surrounded the pool and an inch-high colorful vase stood on the bank flanked by another

dainty chair. Friendly little rabbits nibbled on the healthy crop of grass and found shelter in the corners of the garden which were landscaped with "dwarf" evergreens.

Across from the lawn area, beyond the stone path, radishes, lettuce, beets, carrots, onions, beans, peas, spinach, swiss chard, and tomatoes were planted in rows. Bright star flowers arranged at different heights stood against the picket fence (pot labels stapled together) which enclosed the whole garden. A wide selection of practical gardening books and seed catalogs were included in the display and a booklet, *Glory of the Garden*, an annotated list of books on victory, flower, landscape and indoor gardening, selected by the Readers Advisory Service, was widely distributed. Some of these are still available—a postal request will bring one to you as long as they last.

Unless conditions are suitable for indoor growing, and ours were not, it is advisable to put the garden where it can get a healthy start. Ours was made possible through the splendid coöperation of a commercial seed grower who planted the vegetables and kept them in a greenhouse for us for two weeks. Their seeds and chemical fertilizer were thus advertised.

Any county agent will be most coöperative in gardening projects, suggesting and providing practical garden aids, pamphlets, and speakers.¹ Local garden clubs and conservation groups are likely coöperators, too.

To Garden or Not to Garden? a mimeograph leaflet giving four affirmative and four negative answers, has been especially popular with patrons.

¹ George Tomlinson, 1413 Franklin St., S.E., Grand Rapids, has been recently appointed Victory Gardening Supervisor in Michigan.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Mrs. Mary Hannah, the author of the above article, has recently retired from the staff of the Grand Rapids Public Library where this miniature garden has been blooming. The Michigan Librarian is always glad to act as a clearing house for effective ideas.

Victory Book Campaign Reports

FROM METROPOLITAN DETROIT

THE Victory Book Campaign has obviously been a splendid means of providing reading matter for the men in service. At the same time it has offered the libraries of the country an excellent opportunity for fruitful public relations work. Here in Detroit we feel that we have made countless new friends for the library through working on the drive with the city's largest organizations and through our newspaper stories and radio announcements, which have penetrated practically every home in the vicinity. This publicity, associating the library with a contribution to the war effort as it did, has unquestionably made a favorable impression on various segments of the public, some perhaps previously untouched by our efforts.

Now for the facts and figures. . . . Our total collections to date in the Detroit area are 203,000 books and about 50,000 magazines. Though we estimated that our share of the national goal of ten million was 154,000, we decided early in the campaign to set 200,000 as our quota.

Forty-five per cent of the books collected were considered usable. Almost all of these are now being read by the men in uniform, some of them in camps as far away as Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

Included in the Metropolitan Detroit area was all of Wayne County and the nearby Oakland County towns which felt they would profit from our publicity, sorting, and distribution set-ups. Operations in this district were coördinated at meetings of the local chairmen, held weekly at the Detroit Public Library.

The various Metropolitan Detroit committees worked hard and well. Their accomplishments included twenty-four pictures and 375 column inches of stories in the three large Detroit dailies and many items in the seventy other publication in this area, 300 radio "spot" announcements and two special programs; the setting up of about 900 collection centers and the handling of hundreds of calls for the pick-up of books; the organ-

ization of a bureau of 1000 speakers; the sorting of over 250,000 books and magazines; and the securing of free transportation for books sent to camps and USO centers in Michigan, North Carolina, Mississippi, Alabama, and Texas.

The attack on Detroit bookcases which produced the most volumes in the shortest time was a three-day house-to-house canvass made by 800 people who had registered at the Volunteers for Civilian Defense Office.

A rally attended by the 800 preceded the ringing of doorbells. At this meeting an explanation of the mechanics of the job was followed with stirring talks by Eddie Guest and Captain George Resh, Morale Officer at Fort Wayne. The local Victory Book Campaign director also spoke. In spite of this, the volunteers went out and collected 30,000 books.

EVERETT N. PETERSEN
Executive Director, V.B.C.

STATE RETURNS

Three hundred and twelve thousand books have been collected for the Victory Book Campaign in Michigan, according to gross figures tabulated recently for John Connor of national V.B.C. headquarters. Of these, 203,000 have come from the Detroit metropolitan area, Everett N. Petersen, in charge of the campaign reports.

Ten copies of *Michigan: A Guide to the Wolverine State*, compiled last year by the W.P.A. Michigan Writers' Project, were given by the State Administrative Board for the men in Michigan camps.

Libraries throughout the state are continuing to receive books for camp libraries. Although active solicitation is at an end, the need is still great and books which will appeal to men in the service are welcome.

The McGregor Public Library, Highland Park, advertises its War Information Center by a large red and white sign over its arched and recessed entrance. It is artistically effective as well as patriotic.

Certification and Standards for Michigan Public Libraries

THE new personnel and public library standards, just released by the Michigan State Board for Libraries, are welcome alike to library administrators and assistants, and to library trustees, as an objective yardstick for more effective public library service.

These standards, printed in full below, represent a major step in the Board's effort, as delegated in the State Aid Law, to strengthen the position of library personnel and to work for the improvement of libraries. In this work, the Board has had the co-operation of the Certification Committee of the Michigan Library Association.

Certification for librarians and the public library standards become effective July 1, 1942, according to Mrs. Florence Dearing, Chairman of the Board. Certification for librarians, however, will apply only to new appointments made after that date and are in no way retroactive.

Certification For Librarians of Public Libraries

FIRST GRADE CERTIFICATE

Requirements

a. Graduation from a high school accredited by the University of Michigan and two years experience in a library approved by the State Board for Libraries, or

b. Graduation from a high school accredited by the University of Michigan and attendance at two summer library institutes accredited by the State Board for Libraries within three years after appointment.

Validity

Such certificate shall be valid for one year from date of issue and may be renewed for a like period upon submission of evidence of successful work during the period for which the certificate was issued.

SECOND GRADE CERTIFICATE

Requirements

a. Completion of two full years at a college or university approved by an accredi-

ing association of more than state-wide standing, and two years experience in a library approved by the State Board for Libraries, or

b. Completion of two full years at a college or university approved by an accrediting association of more than state-wide standing, supplemented by attendance at two workshop institutes within three years after appointment.

Validity

Such certificate shall be valid for two years. It may be renewed by successful completion of one of the following: (1) one workshop institute, or its equivalent in a library internship; (2) attendance at a summer school; or (3) courses in correspondence or extension work.

THIRD GRADE CERTIFICATE

Requirements

a. Graduation from a college or university approved by an accrediting association of more than state-wide standing, including or supplemented by one full year of training in a library school accredited by the American Library Association.

Validity

Certificate shall continue in force for the life of the holder without further renewal, with the recommendation that recognition be given for advanced study, outstanding professional accomplishments, or their equivalents.

FOURTH GRADE CERTIFICATE

Requirements

a. Graduation from a college or university approved by an accrediting association of more than state-wide standing, including or supplemented by one full year of training in a library school accredited by the American Library Association and not less than two years experience in a library approved by the State Board for Libraries.

Validity

Same as for third grade certificate.

FIFTH GRADE CERTIFICATE

Requirements

a. Graduation from a college or university approved by an accrediting association of more than state-wide standing, including or supplemented by one full year of training in a library school accredited by the American Library Association and not less than four years experience in a library approved by the State Board for Libraries.

Validity

Same as for third grade certificate.

Public Library Standards

CLASS I

Population served less than 3,000.

1. Staff—One paid worker holding first grade certificate.

2. Hours—Open to the public a minimum of 10 hours per week.

CLASS II

Population served 3,000-4,999.

1. Staff—Chief librarian holding second grade certificate; one assistant holding at least first grade certificate.

2. Hours—Open to the public a minimum of 24 hours per week.

CLASS III

Population served 5,000-9,999.

1. Staff—Chief librarian holding third

grade certificate; 33 per cent of the staff holding second grade certificate; one staff member for each 25,000 circulation, and fraction thereof; one part-time page or clerical assistant.

2. Hours—Open to the public a minimum of 40 hours per week.

CLASS IV

Population served 10,000-14,999.

1. Staff—Chief librarian holding fourth grade certificate; 33 per cent of the staff holding 2a, third and fourth grade certificates; one staff member for each 25,000 circulation or fraction thereof.

2. Books—2 books per capita.

3. Hours—Open to the public a minimum of 40 hours per week with 48 hours per week recommended.

CLASS V

Population served 15,000 and up.

1. Staff—Chief librarian holding fifth grade certificate; 40 per cent of the staff holding 2a, third, fourth, and fifth grade certificates; one staff member for each 25,000 circulation or fraction thereof.

2. Books—2 books per capita.

3. Hours—Open to the public a minimum of 60 hours per week.

State-Aid Funds Distributed

SEVENTY thousand dollars have been distributed to Michigan libraries from the General Library Fund since the State Aid to Public Libraries Law became operative January 10, according to Irving Lieberman, Director of State Aid.

The total allotment for grants from this fund will amount to \$182,500, by far the largest proportion of the state-aid monies.

One hundred and thirty libraries have shared in this first payment. Sixty-six more libraries have qualified and will receive grants when the final per capita rate has been established. This is in compliance with a ruling of the State Board that amounts of less than \$100 shall be made in a single payment.

Three hundred libraries have received ap-

plication forms for grants from the General Library Fund, and many applications are still under consideration.

The remaining funds will be used to establish new county or regional libraries and to equalize library resources in all parts of the state.

Five new county libraries have been established in Iosco, Muskegon, Van Buren, and Wexford counties. The Iosco, Mason, Muskegon and Wexford libraries have already received \$3,000 each from the \$25,000 available this year for establishment grants. It is expected that the remainder of this fund will be allotted this month, Mr. Lieberman reports.

The county library, in the opinion of the

State Board for Libraries, is an economical and efficient way to assure good book service to the million Michigan residents who have no library within reach. These people live in the rural areas of the state.

To further aid these rural areas, equalization grants, amounting to approximately \$.08 per capita will go to those libraries where the average per capita assessed valuation is less than two-thirds of the average of the state.

It is hoped that all funds available for state aid to public libraries this year will be

distributed by July 1, 1942, since the distribution for 1942-43 will begin after that date.

Mr. Lieberman will be inducted into the Armed Forces sometime this month. To carry on the work he has underway, the State Board for Libraries has appointed Mrs. Lodisca P. Alway to administer state-aid funds. Mrs. Alway, who has been a district supervisor of the W.P.A. Library Project since January, received a degree in library science from the University of Michigan and was formerly a member of the Kalamazoo Public Library staff.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Reported by the M. L. A. Executive Board

EXECUTIVE BOARD CHANGES

Irving Lieberman, of the State Library Staff and recently appointed member of the Executive Board, has been accepted for military service. His position on the Executive Board will be filled by Elizabeth Hance of the Michigan State Library.

EXECUTIVE BOARD ACTION

At a meeting of the Executive Board held in Ann Arbor on April 9, the Executive Board went on record in support of H. R. 6271, providing \$15,000,000 for elementary and citizenship instruction for adults seventeen years and over who do not have a fourth grade education. This bill is still in the Appropriations Committee of the House.

The Executive Board voted unanimously to cooperate with the State Board for Libraries in a combined institute and workshop to be held at Camp Shaw in the Upper Peninsula, August 4-6, 1942.

HELP OUR ILLITERATES

The Federal Relations Committee of the Michigan Library Association asks support for H.R.-6271. This Legislative Bill was first introduced in the House of Representatives, December 18, 1941, asking for an appropriation of \$15,000,000 for elementary and citizenship instruction for adults seventeen years of age or over who have not attained a fourth grade education. Seven per cent of the first two million selectees called

for war service were rejected because they did not have a fourth grade education.

If each member of the Michigan Library Association will write his or her Congressmen, it might help to extricate this Bill from the House Appropriations Committee where it now rests.

MABEL C. TRUE, *Chairman*
Federal Relations Committee

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Practically every committee of the Association has been very active and several have already made valiant progress.

The Planning Committee, under the chairmanship of Hobart R. Coffey, Law Library, University of Michigan, is studying problems of post-war planning and the possibility of better cooperation in buying and maintaining special collections of materials among the larger libraries in the state. At one of its committee meetings, George Ross of the State Planning Commission discussed general plans for post-war developments in Michigan.

The Federal Relations Committee is cooperating with the American Library Association in seeking priorities for libraries needing tires and other rationed materials, Mabel C. True, Detroit Public Library, Chairman, reports.

The Committee on Certification has been working hard in cooperation with a Certification Committee from the State Board for

Libraries, and hopes soon Michigan may have a system of certification by which ability and growth in library service will be recognized and rewarded. Helen Crane of the Detroit Public Library heads this committee. Elsewhere in this issue is a description of the library workshops to be held this spring and summer under the auspices of the State Board for Libraries which will give credit toward certification. For further information, write Mrs. Loleta D. Fyan at the State Library.

The results of the many meetings of the Committee on Institutes and In-Service Training are indicated in the program announcement of the summer institutes for librarians. Adeline Cooke, Baldwin Public Library, Birmingham, reports for her committee that another of its accomplishments is the offering of an extension course in Book Selection in Detroit this semester by the University of Michigan Library Science Department.

The Membership Committee, Mrs. Ethel W. Yabroff, Mackenzie High School Library, Chairman, reports that, in spite of its efforts, there are comparatively few institutional members in the Association. It seems as if there should be more libraries eager to support the Association which has been chiefly responsible for whatever improvements in general library service in the state have been made in many years and which has secured for the benefit of libraries the needed boon of state aid.

The Hospital Library Committee under the direction of Ruth Dancer of the Wayne County Library at Eloise is making a survey of all hospital library service in the state.

ADULT EDUCATION CIRCULARS

The first of six circulars, prepared especially to help the smaller libraries keep in touch with inexpensive materials on current subjects, has just been mailed to three hundred Michigan libraries, according to Elsa M. Struble, Chairman of the M.L.A. Adult Education Committee.

Each circular is to include a list of free or inexpensive material selected by Wilma Stafford of the Detroit Public Library, a member of the committee.

Subjects of forthcoming numbers and committee members who will prepare them are: Community discussion groups, Anne Farrington; The consumer in wartime, Miss Stafford in coöperation with Mrs. Loleta D. Fyan; The place of recreation in defense, Gail Curtis; What the small college can do in the war program, Carolyn Dudley, in coöperation with the Post-war Planning Committee of the M.L.A.

With the circular featuring discussion groups, the committee is sending a packet of pamphlets and an effective poster. Mailing of the circulars and packets is made possible through the help of the Michigan State Library.

U.P.L.A. MEETS, ELECTS OFFICERS

Sixty librarians and library board members were in attendance at the annual meeting of the Upper Peninsula Library Association (District 7, M.L.A.) held in the Spies Public Library, Menominee, on May 2. Mrs. Fyan of the State Library, Mrs. George Hunter of the State Board for Libraries, Mrs. Cora Farrar, State Director of Library Projects, Work Projects Administration, and Irene Hayner, President, M.L.A., represented the Lower Peninsula at this meeting.

The program and entertainment had been well planned by Florence Meinberg, Librarian of the Spies Public Library. Mr. Ferdie Davis, teacher in the Menominee High School, gave an excellent talk on the services which libraries can render local defense councils. The Reverend Frank Smith, Pastor of the Menominee Methodist Church, gave a fascinating analysis of the Chinese and Japanese background of the present war in Asia. At the business meeting, Mrs. Hunter discussed the work of the State Board for Libraries, especially the plans for certification of public libraries, and Miss Hayner described the program of the Michigan Library Association, stressing particularly the plans being formulated for the summer institutes and the annual meeting.

Midmorning coffee at the library was a pleasant interlude of the morning session and a delicious luncheon, served in the Memorial Club House by the Women's Club of Menominee, preceded the afternoon meeting.

Phyllis S. Rankin, Librarian of the Peter White Library, Marquette, presided at the meetings. Mrs. Genevieve Erickson of the Wakefield Public Library and Lydia Koebbe of the Carnegie Public Library at Stambaugh serve District 7 as vice-chairman and secretary, respectively. These officers, newly elected by the U.P.L.A., serve dually this association and District 7.

The next association meeting is to be held in conjunction with the summer Library Institute at Camp Shaw.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

Individual dues are not coming in as fast as one would wish, according to a statement received from our treasurer. Of course, we

all know it is our membership dues which support our programs of library publicity, institutes, campaigns for state aid, and any other efforts made for better library conditions. Let's do our part by sending in our dues.

Under the terms of the new constitution the treasurer will send two notices for unpaid dues. One month after the second notice has been sent the individual member becomes technically delinquent and is not eligible for future issues of *The Michigan Librarian*.

However, since it will not be possible to publish the new constitution until September, it has been decided to keep such members on the mailing list for this issue.

M. L. A. Spring Meetings

Third Annual District Series Held

SEVEN regional meetings of the Michigan Library Association have been held this month in its third annual district series, leading off with the meeting of the Upper Peninsula Library Association at the Spies Public Library in Menominee, May 2. "The Library, a Vital Cog in Wartime Machinery" is the theme around which district programs were planned, according to Irene Hayner, President of M.L.A.

District One

District one met at Kalamazoo May 21, with Laurance J. Harwood, South Bend trustee, speaking on "The Place of the Trustee in the Present Library Emergency Program." A special session of the Trustees Section was held during the morning. Flora B. Roberts, retiring Kalamazoo librarian, was honored at the luncheon meeting.

District Two

"County Governmental Organization in Michigan" was discussed by Arthur W. Bromage, Political Science Department, University of Michigan, at the meeting of district two in Ann Arbor May 22. Other speakers included Dr. Warner G. Rice, Director of University Libraries, whose subject was "Groping in the Black Out;" William P. Reid, of the University Library, discussing "Job Analysis and the Library;" and Mrs.

Florence B. Dearing, of Hartland, who spoke on "The Michigan State Library: Plans for Its Future and What It Can Do for the Public Library."

District Three

Friends of the Library groups were featured in the discussions at the meeting of district three at Flushing May 14. Ray W. Labbitt, President of the Royal Oak Friends, Mrs. D. G. Morrison of Dearborn, and Mrs. John S. Lambie, Chairman of the M.L.A. Trustees Section, were the speakers, followed by group discussion of the Friends organization.

District Four

The meeting of district four at Holland, May 12, added the pleasure of tulip time to a day of discussion and planning. State Senator Earnest C. Brooks spoke on state government; Maud W. Smith, Barry County Commissioner of Schools, on "The County School Commissioner as a Trustee."

District Five

Visitors to Waldenwoods, Hartland, where district five met, May 19, enjoyed community singing and a trip to points of interest in the Hartland neighborhood. Among speakers were Marion Packard, Trustee, Flushing Township Library, on "The New Library Trustee;" Dr. Rice, on "The Future

of Education in the United States;" and Mrs. Loleta D. Fyan, State Librarian, on "The Relation between the State Library and the Libraries of Michigan."

District Six

District six held its meeting at Kalkaska, May 8. A round-table discussion on "The Trustee's Place in the Library Defense Program" was led by Mrs. Gertrude L. Kunze of Iosco County Library. Two afternoon speakers were James MacConnell, American Youth Commission, Ann Arbor, who discussed "Youth and the Library" and Francis Robinson, Mt. Pleasant High School, whose subject was "Understanding Latin America through Books." At the organizational meeting of trustees held during the luncheon intermission, Mrs. Kunze was elected chairman.

The work of the State Board for Libraries was reviewed by members of the board who attended district meetings, including Mrs. G. Hunter, Mrs. F. B. Dearing, Mrs. D. Hagerman, Helen Warner, and Mrs. L. D. Fyan.

An exhibit of timely books and pamphlets of interest to the smaller libraries was prepared at the State Library. Books and pamphlet material on national and civilian defense and on Latin American relations, prepared by Edith Thomas and Benton H. Wilcox of the University of Michigan Library Extension Service, were a feature of the Ann Arbor meeting.

District Seven

The Upper Peninsula Library Association comprises the seventh M.L.A. district. A report of their meeting will be found on page 20 of this issue.

The Trustee

(Continued from Page 5)

tained purposes, but it has the positive responsibility of seeing to it that the library is supported to the limit of local ability. This means that you cannot "leave it to George," the librarian, to beg and dicker and try to push the appropriation as is so often done, the board merely approving the amount to be asked for. What is a board for if the public-spirited and influential citizens who compose it do not lift a finger in the library's aid? The board does not, of course,

set out to rob other public services for the benefit of the library, but surely it should see that the library gets its due.

The board, composed as it presumably is of representative citizens who have the cause of education and the cultural and social welfare of the community at heart, must represent the library to the community and the community, in turn, to the library. You have contacts, connections—business and social; you are well known and possess a certain amount of influence. Part of your job is to "sell" the library in your circles, to create for it good will, and, by the same token, to bring back to the library the attitudes, the praise and the blame reflected by the community.

At the same time, the board is more than a weathercock that veers with every breath of the four winds of vagrant public opinion. The board is also legally, and, we trust, spiritually, an independent board; one that acts as a buffer against mere idle gossip or forays on the part of individuals, groups, and public officials whose motives may not be entirely unmixcd.

ADVISORY POWERS

Finally, the board is an advisory, a policy-forming body. The men and women who compose it possess diverse and mature interests, usually better-than-average abilities, and may have achieved some business and civic success. It is able to render counsel and advice on library policies and on problems brought to it by the librarian. This does not mean that the board's function is to "butt in" to library operation, and it assumes that all concerned will be happier if the advice is not given as a command. It does mean, however, that in assisting the librarian to solve the unusual problem and in planning the larger aspects of library service, several heads are better than one.

Thus the board which abides by the mere letter of the law, is one thing. And, assuredly, the board which breathes life into the letter and interprets its duties and responsibilities creatively, is entirely another.

The membership of the Metropolitan Library Club of Detroit has reached the total figure of 532.

Of Interest to School Librarians

STATE EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

THE Board has met twice this year—in Lansing, February 14, and in Ann Arbor, April 24. Although it has taken little final action so far, it is making progress along a number of lines upon which it will report more definitely in the fall.

In response to a demand expressed at the annual meeting of M.L.A. last fall, a statement of the functions and organization of the Board is being prepared for publication. The committee expects to have its report ready by early fall.

The Board has agreed that an effort should be made to give library service more emphasis in the meetings of the Michigan Education Association. With this objective in mind, it made an attempt (unfortunately, an unsuccessful one) to secure a place for a library speaker on the general programs of the M.E.A. regional meetings. There is still a possibility, however, that the library will be represented on some of the division programs of these meetings.

To the library section chairmen of each of the M.E.A. regions, the Board has sent a letter suggesting that they do what they can to encourage the development of racial tolerance in their communities. It recommended preparing appropriate exhibits both at M.E.A. and in their local libraries, and making bibliographies available. Material for both exhibits and bibliographies, it was pointed out, could be obtained not only from the local community but from the state and university libraries.

The Board has also been considering the advisability of sponsoring library clinics in communities where persons with little or no library training are responsible for the library service. Opinions from individuals representing the groups concerned are being solicited. Definite action is being withheld until a more thorough survey indicates whether the need for such clinics exists.

The other major concern of the Board has been the discussion of post-war aims for

school libraries. Each member is now working on a special phase of the problem. By mail their individual reports will be exchanged with other members for comment. By next fall the results will be cumulated into a definite set of objectives and included in the Board's final report.

JEANETTE JOHNSON, *Secretary*
High School Library, Three Rivers

EXAMINATION FOR SCHOOL LIBRARY CONSULTANT

The State Board for Libraries has asked the Michigan Civil Service Commission to give an examination this summer for the position of School Library Consultant in the Extension Division of the State Library. Experience and training required to qualify for the examination are: (1) three years of professional experience in school library work, one year of which shall have been in a responsible supervisory capacity in a school library, and completion of four years of college training; (2) two years of work in a school library of recognized standing and two years of professional experience in library work and completion of four years of college training; or (3) any equivalent combination of experience and training. Applicants must have a driver's license and be 25 years of age.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO WORKSHOPS

The workshops in education at the University of Chicago this summer offer an unusual opportunity for school librarians. Through the coöperation of the Graduate Library School and the Department of Education, Mildred Batchelder of A.L.A. Headquarters and Frances Henne, formerly Librarian of University High School at Chicago University, will be on the staff of the workshops in education.

School librarians will also be interested in special courses in their field offered this summer by the Graduate Library School. For further information about any of the above opportunities, write the Graduate Library School, University of Chicago.

William Warner Bishop Lectureship Series

A LECTURESHIP in the broad field of librarianship was established last year at the University of Michigan in the name of Dr. Bishop by alumni of the Department of Library Science and present and former faculty members of the Department. The funds have now reached an amount sufficient to open the series. The first lecture will be given on Friday, May 29, at 3:00 P.M. on the day preceding the commencement exercises. The lecturer will be Charles R. Sanderson, Chief Librarian, Toronto Public Libraries. Alumni are invited and urged to return to Ann Arbor for the occasion.

A.L.A. Annual Conference

A RCHIBALD MACLEISH, Librarian of Congress, has accepted an invitation to speak at the sixty-fourth annual conference of the American Library Association, to be held in Milwaukee, June 22-27. The theme of the general sessions will be "Winning the War and the Peace: How Libraries Can Help."

Charles H. Brown, A.L.A. president, will preside at the conference, and under his chairmanship several well-known speakers will discuss the wartime services of libraries to education, industry, and the general public. In announcing plans for the general sessions, Mr. Brown said "We are fortunate in obtaining such outstanding programs for a wartime convention."

Edgar Ansel Mowrer will speak on "Educating the Citizen in a World at War" at the first general session. Clarence Dykstra, President of the University of Wisconsin, will talk on "Universities and the War," emphasizing the importance of libraries in higher education. Lawrence W. Bass, Assistant Director of the Mellon Institute, Pittsburgh, will speak on the value of specialized research libraries in production of armament. Mr. Bass is a chemical engineer.

Public libraries and the war will be examined from two widely different angles, when Robert J. Blakely, Associate Editor of the *Des Moines Register and Tribune*, and

Ralph A. Beals of the Public Library of the District of Columbia, speak at the second general session. Mr. Blakely will represent the citizen. A school administrator will also be invited to share the program.

S.L.A. 1942 Conference

The Michigan Chapter of the Special Libraries Association has been invited by the Executive Board of the Association to serve as host for the 1942 conference of the Association. The conference scheduled for Los Angeles has been brought inland to Detroit because of war conditions. With the theme, "United for Victory," the War Emergency Conference will be held Thursday to Saturday, June 18-20 with headquarters at the Hotel Statler. Plans for general sessions include discussions of industrial, civilian defense and Western Hemisphere problems, according to Mary Gibling, program committee chairman.

Further details as to the program may be secured from George Gilfillan, General Chairman, Reference Library, *Detroit News*.

Manuscripts and Archives Course

The University of Michigan Department of Library Science is offering in the summer session of 1942 a new course for librarians which will deal with the care and use of manuscripts and archives in libraries. The instructor is Howard H. Peckham, Curator of Manuscripts, William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan. Two hours credit will be given for the course.

Research Needs

(Continued from Page 11)

which will make the path of progress easier when they have been properly established. In the effectively functioning technical library these observations and demonstrated relationships will be preserved and made available to other researchers. It seems fitting to state a simple observation in conclusion. Just as scientific and industrial progress need research, so research needs library facilities, and, in a particular sense, the facilities of special libraries, since they are normally nearest at hand and most pertinent.

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Bookmobile Visits Institutes

FIVE institutes for librarians in service are being held in Michigan this spring and summer. Three vocational institutes for training library workers in specific subjects are planned by the State Board for Libraries. Two general background institutes, similar to those held in 1940 and 1941, are announced, the first at Hartland sponsored by the Michigan Library Association; the second, at Camp Shaw, to combine institute and workshop features, sponsored by the State Board for Libraries and the Michigan Library Association.

VOCATIONAL WORKSHOPS

Vocational institutes will be held as follows: May 25-27 at Waldenwoods, Hartland, \$5.00; May 27-29 at Waldenwoods, \$4.50; August 9-11, Higgins Lake, west of Roscommon, at the Conservation Department Training School, \$5.50.

These institutes, arranged by the State Board for Libraries in cooperation with the State Board for Control of Vocational Education, are to be of the workshop type. They are designed to be of practical help to librarians in smaller communities, to beginners in larger libraries, and to interested board members and will emphasize technical library problems.

These workshops fit into the certification plan for librarians announced by the State Board for Libraries in this issue of the *Librarian*. Successful work at any one of them

INSTITUTES *for* LIBRARIANS *in* SERVICE

Third Series, 1942

will bring credit toward a first or second grade certificate, which applies to those working in communities of less than 5,000 population and to beginners in library work.

Each workshop registrant is asked to come prepared to work on his or her own library problems, such as: "What basic books for children are in my library?" "What reference books have proven most useful in my experience?" "What additional books should be bought for my library?" "In what way can I improve the service of the library?" "For what purposes were the funds of the library spent last year?" "What should its budget plan for next year be?" "How have the services of my library been changed to meet war needs?"

Workshop lecturers and their subjects include Helen M. Clark, Assistant State Librarian, discussing "The Selection of Books for Children" and "Reference Books Essential for the Small Library;" Hazel Warren, Indiana State Library, "Library Procedures and Organization" and "Planning the Library Budget;" and Cecil McHale, University of Michigan Department of Library Science, "Selection of Books for Adults;" Irene C. Hayner, University High School Library, "Materials for a War Information Center;" and Mrs. Iva Wight, Chairman, Charlotte Public Library Board, "Opportunities for Community Service."

There will be ample opportunities for individual consultations and for the examina-

tion of exhibits of books, pamphlets, supply samples, and free and inexpensive materials. A Pan-American exhibit from the Library Service Division of the U.S. Office of Education, a War Information Center exhibit, and one from Michigan County Libraries will be especially featured.

The State Board for Libraries has announced the following consultants for the workshops at Waldenwoods.

General Consultants: Mrs. Florence Dearing, Hartland; Mrs. Cora Farrar, Lansing; Mrs. Gladys Miller, Ingham County Library, Mason; Mrs. Loleta D. Fyan, Lansing; Helen M. Clark, Lansing; Constance Bement, Lansing; Hazel Warren, Indianapolis.

Trustee Consultants: Marion Packard, Flushing; Mrs. Iva Wight, Charlotte.

Consultants on War Information: Mrs. Henrietta Alubowicz, Grand Rapids; Mrs. Florence Brown, Lansing; Jean Kelsey, Flint; Louise Owens, Escanaba.

TWO SUMMER INSTITUTES PLANNED

The program of the third annual series of M.L.A. Summer Institutes as announced by C. Irene Hayner, President, has been built around the theme "Redirecting Library Service in War Time." Dates for the institutes are: July 30-August 2, Waldenwoods; August 4-6, Camp Shaw, near Munising.

Quite different in purpose and planning, are these institutes from the Vocational Workshops noted above. Of a general character, the institutes have been designed for the discussion of community library problems and training in discussion methods. The Waldenwoods program is not yet completed, but there will be good speakers to start interesting discussion on Civilian Morale, Planning for Present and Future, and Taxation Effecting Libraries. A. Drummond Jones of the U.S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics will be back again this year as leader and instructor in discussion methods.

Relaxation and fun have likewise been provided for in a trip to Cromaine Library in Hartland, a picnic, evenings of country dancing, story telling, and group games. Excellent swimming and boating facilities at Waldenwoods are further recreational features which appeal to visitors.

The Camp Shaw Institute program, in response to the request of people in the Upper Peninsula, is combining the workshop and institute features, enough technical work being given to satisfy State Board requirements for certification for public librarians, and as much duplication of the Waldenwoods program as possible.

KEEP INSTITUTE DATES OPEN

The M.L.A. institutes are open to librarians, trustees, and citizens interested in libraries. Start planning now for a fine professional vacation.

REGISTRATION AND COSTS

Librarians planning to attend the summer institutes should send in reservations before July 15. Cost of the Hartland Institute, including registration, is \$7.25; of the institute and workshop at Camp Shaw, \$7.50. Reservations should be sent for Hartland to Mrs. Florence Dearing, Cromaine Library, Hartland; for Camp Shaw, to Mrs. Loleta Fyan, Michigan State Library, Lansing.

Bookmobile Exhibit

Michigan was the first state to display the bookmobile exhibit prepared recently by the U. S. Department of Agriculture to advertise the idea of a "library on wheels."

A true miniature of the actual product, even to titles of interest to rural readers on its small books, the exhibit was shown at the State Federation of Women's Clubs in Detroit, the week of March 16; at the Urban-Rural Women's Conference and the Michigan Country Life Association at Michigan State College, March 23-28; at Clear Lake Camp during a conference of Community Council representatives in April; and at the State Office Building in Lansing. The bookmobile is also traveling to some of the spring district meetings of the Michigan Library Association and to the Vocational Workshops at Hartland, May 25-29.

Copies of the A.L.A. leaflet on rural library service and of the pamphlet giving services of the Michigan State Library were on hand for the audience which gathered wherever the bookmobile was set up.

COOPERATIVE PUBLICITY

Features the PACIFIC AREA

"AUSTRALIA and the War" is featured by the third book list in the cooperative publicity experiment sponsored by the Detroit Public Library, the Michigan State Library, and *The Michigan Librarian*.

For the first time in the series, the subject lends itself to the inclusion of fiction.

Posters on the Pacific area and on public housing are the next to be released to libraries sharing in the experiment.

Shortly after the cooperative project was announced in *The Michigan Librarian*, every poster was spoken for. With requests still being received, a committee of the Michigan Library Association hopes to work out a plan for re-routing posters to libraries near their first users. If this plan is worked out, librarians who have asked for posters since the supply was exhausted will be notified. Because gardening has seasonal limits, the Michigan State Library provided an additional supply of Detroit's effective gardening poster.

Two recent lists, not printed because of space limitations but available while the supply lasts from the Detroit Public Library, are "Pan Americanism" and "Economic and Military Aspects of Hemisphere Defense."

Olive Deane Hormel, whose talks on new books are popular occasions in many Michigan cities each season, has a book list on the Pacific area. Titles listed, with one or two exceptions, are 1941 and 1942 copyrights. Copies of the list, *The Challenge of the Orient*, are available from the University of Michigan Extension Service at Ann Arbor.

AUSTRALIA AND THE WAR

THE WAR BACKGROUND

Alexander, Fred. *Australia and the United States*. (America Looks Ahead, no. 1) World Peace Foundation, 40 Mt. Vernon St., Boston. \$5.00; paper, \$.25.

An Australian's view of the political, economic, and cultural relations of the two countries and their importance in the present world situation.

Australia and the War Third List in Series

Shepherd, Jack. *Australia's Interests and Policies in the Far East*. American Council, Institute of Public Relations, 129 E. 52 St., New York City. 1940. \$2.00.

Reviews the economic and political position of Australia, with particular emphasis on the time of the Sino-Japanese War and relations with Japan in recent years.

Walker, E. R. *War-time Economics, with Special Reference to Australia*. Melbourne Univ. Press, Oxford. 1939. \$1.25.

A summary of the special economic requirements of war and a suggested program for financing war and controlling resources in Australia.

HISTORY

Dow, D. M. *Australia Advances*. Funk and Wagnalls, 1938. \$2.00.

A brief, general history by an Australian, with the emphasis on social and economic conditions.

Grattan, C. H. *Introducing Australia*. John Day, 1942. \$3.00.

A survey by an American who has spent considerable time in Australia.

Hancock, W. K. *Australia*. Scribner, 1930. \$5.00.

"A terse summary of the history of Australian colonization is followed by dissertations on the present-day development of national aims and methods in the economic, political, and social sphere . . . Closes with a chapter on the literary and artistic influences of the Commonwealth."

Scott, Ernest, ed. *Australian Discovery*. 2v. Dutton, 1929. \$4.00 ea.

Selections from journals and reports of the explorers. Scott, Ernest. *Short History of Australia*. Oxford Univ. Press, 1916. \$1.50.

This is a very satisfactory work by an authority. Mr. Scott is professor of history at the University of Melbourne.

Shann, E. O. G. *Economic History of Australia*. Macmillan, 1930. \$6.00.

A study of the development of the resources of Australia, the country's efforts to achieve economic independence, and the reform measures which have been adopted.

DESCRIPTION AND TRAVEL

Chapman, Ernest. *Australia through the Windscreen*. Angus & Robertson, Ltd., Sydney, Australia, 1939. 3s, 6d.

An account of an automobile tour around coastal Australia, with a description of the country and an examination of the possibilities of future development.

Chapman, Ernest. *I Find Australia*. Oxford Univ. Press, 1937. \$1.50.

"A rapid survey of the several states and as wise a judgment of the successes, the failings, and the potentialities of the country as you will find."

Clarke, Tom. *Marriage at 6 A.M.* Victor Gollancz, Ltd., London, 1934. 10s, 6d.

A newspaper man's impressions of Australia during a three years' stay.

Taylor, T. G. *Australia: a Study of Warm Environments, and Their Effect on British Settlement*. Dutton, 1940. \$5.00.

"College textbook on Australia, describing the physical and human aspects of that continent."

Wilkins, Sir G. H. *Undiscovered Australia*. Putnam, 1929. \$4.50.

"An account of an expedition to tropical Australia to collect specimens of the rarer native fauna for the British Museum, 1923-25."—*Subtitle*.

Wood, Thomas. *Cobbers*. Oxford Univ. Press, 1934. \$2.50.

An Englishman records his experiences and reactions to Australia. "Cobber" is Australian slang for companion.

AUSTRALIA IN FICTION

Cottrell, Dorothy. *Wilderness Orphan*. Simon and Schuster, 1940. \$1.50.

The story of a kangaroo who finds himself in the world of humans and is forced to fight his way back to his own kind.

Dark, Eleanor. *Timeless Land*. Macmillan, 1941. \$2.75.

Vivid picture of Australia and its people during colonization years, 1770-1792.

Eldershaw, M. B. *A House Is Built*. Harcourt, 1929. \$2.50.

A family story linked with the growth and trade expansion of Australia in the nineteenth century.

Lowe, Eric. *Salute to Freedom*. Reynal, 1938. \$2.50.

Forthright and serious in tone is this novel of the way of life of the country people of New South Wales.

Nordhoff, C. B., and Hall, J. N. *Botany Bay*. Little, Brown, 1941. \$2.50.

Thrilling tale of Australia in 1785.

Richardson, H. H. *Fortunes of Richard Mahoney*, 3v. in 1. Norton, 1931. \$3.50.

Brilliantly written character study with a setting in Australia of the late 1800's.

Tennant, Kylie. *The Battlers*. Macmillan, 1941. \$2.50.

Realistic novel concerned with the migrant laborers who follow the fruit crops of Australia from place to place.

Around the State

Have You Heard?

ALL of her friends will hear with regret of the resignation of Mrs. Cora A. Cummings as Director of Libraries in the Fordson School District.

This will complete her twentieth year of outstanding library service which is of lasting value to students and community. From a tiny nucleus of a few books at the end of a corridor in Miller School, Mrs. Cummings has developed a system of libraries which includes twelve schools and a junior college, with approximately 92,000 volumes. By initiating in Fordson a centralized method of buying and cataloging books for school libraries, she became one of the pioneers in furthering the acceptance of this movement.

Her vision and tireless efforts are shown in all phases of library work, including the many practical features which she incorporated with the architects in the plans of the high school library quarters. Mrs. Cummings has been a source of inspiration to her many associates and a leader in educational and library circles. The many who know her are constantly aware of her great charm and graciousness, while those who have the privilege of knowing her well, delight in her spontaneous wit and roguish humor.

It is gratifying to know that Mrs. Cummings will be at home in Wayne, where her friends may see her often. Her colonial house is a perfect setting for her, with its unusual library of books, ranging from rare

and autographed editions to the very latest works of modern writers.

In recognition of her years of inspirational service, her friends and fellow workers are joining together on May 25 at the Fordson High School for a testimonial dinner.

Flora B. Roberts was honored by the Friends of the Library of the Kalamazoo Public Library with a dinner and program of appreciation on April 29, at Walwood Hall, Western Michigan College of Education. Miss Roberts will retire from active duty on July 1, after twenty-four years of unstinted service to Kalamazoo.

Stanley Morris, President of the Friends of the Library, was chairman of the meeting and introduced the toastmaster, Harold B. Allen, as the man in Kalamazoo who uses the library practically every day for some form of service. Speakers representing several community groups paid rich and highly deserved tribute to Miss Roberts, her staff, and her work in the library and civic affairs of the community.

After emphasizing the close and helpful cooperation given by Miss Roberts to Kalamazoo College, Milton Simpson (representing the college) announced that on June first the college would confer on Miss Roberts a Master of Arts degree in recognition of outstanding service to the city.

The second annual spring breakfast of the Metropolitan Library Club of Detroit was held at the Whittier, April 19.

Mrs. Bertha Clark Damon, author of *Grandma Called it Carnal*, in her facetious-serious talk, "Victoria Rules the Ways" pointed out the stern religious and moral standards, the ornate standards of taste, the prudery of the Victorian Age. But emphasized and driven home was the fact that this period saw the rise and development of the reforms and many inventions and technical processes which are now the mark and pride of the democracies. Mentioned specifically were women's rights, labor legislation, and many inventions which are basic in our industrial civilization.

Special guests were Frank Cody, Superintendent of Schools, Detroit, who, with Adam Strohm, retired Librarian of the Detroit Pub-

lic Library, sponsored the organization and encouraged the development of the club; Laura A. Woodward, National President of the Special Libraries Association, and Helen Clark, Assistant State Librarian of Michigan.

Newly elected officers of the Metropolitan Club are: Lois Le Baron, Detroit Public Library, President; Maude Allen, Wayne University Library, Vice-President; Ruth Irwin, Highland Park Senior High School Library, Secretary-Treasurer. Elizabeth Briggs, Royal Oak Public Library, and Lucille Walsh, Fordson High School Library, were made directors.

Junior Members of the Michigan Library Association held a spring rally at Blythefield Country Club, Grand Rapids, on May 2, with Rabbi Jerome D. Folkman as principal speaker. Harry J. Kelley of the Grand Rapids Library Board and Dorothy Hagerman of the State Board for Libraries were also on the program. Golf, dancing, and bridge followed the meeting which was arranged by the co-chairmen Florinel Peebles and Gladys Dunn. Among the out-of-town guests were Janet Teale, Kalamazoo, President of Michigan Juniors, and Mildred Kumer, Detroit, Vice-President.

Editors of the *Junior Librarian* announce that publication of that periodical will be suspended by the decision of the Executive Board of the Junior Members Round Table for the duration of the war. When publication is resumed all former subscribers will receive the first issue to fulfill their subscription requirements.

The following letter has been received by George Gilfillan, President of the Michigan chapter of The Special Libraries Association, from B. W. Beyer, Chairman, Census Committee of the Engineering Society of Detroit.

"The Directors of the Engineering Society of Detroit have asked me to express to you their appreciation for the work performed by the members of your chapter in classifying our Census of Technical Man-Power and in transposing its data into the form desired by the National Roster of Scientific and Specialized Personnel. So that this appreciation may be expressed formally, it is the pleasure

of this society to invite your chapter to hold its annual meeting in the E.S.D. headquarters of the Rackham Educational Memorial on Thursday evening, May 14. . . . Please accept our gratitude for the splendid coöperation provided by the Special Libraries Association members."

The speaker at the meeting was Harvey M. Merker, President of the Engineering Society and manufacturing superintendent of Parke Davis and Co., whose subject was "The Story Behind Your Medicine Chest."

Royal Oak Friends of the Library celebrated its third anniversary at a dinner, April 19, in the Royal Oak Civic Auditorium. Prof. C. B. Hilberry of the English department of Wayne University was the featured speaker of the evening.

Royal Oak Friends are sponsoring a new project—a phonograph record loan collection for the library, for which many fine records are being donated. The group is very active, with a present membership of 226. Reverend Robert S. Steen of the First Presbyterian Church is the newly elected president of the organization.

The Publicity Bureau of the Grand Rapids Librarians Club adopted as its major project this year the organization of a speakers' bureau for the library. This consists of staff members who are willing to publicize the library through short talks to various groups in the city.

The talks which range in length from five to fifteen minutes are of two main types. The first is a specialized book talk describing books and services of particular value to the group at hand; such as our medical room with its nursing journals when talking to nurses, or our new collection of technical books when speaking to industrial groups. The second aims to familiarize the public with the work and services of various departments in the library.

These talks are given to any group desiring them—nurses, Parent-Teacher Associations, service clubs, and industrial groups.

The Association of High School Librarians of Greater Detroit hopes that it has inaugurated an annual meeting of high school pupils interested in entering library work as

a profession. The Association entertained a group of such pupils in the Northwestern High School Library, Thursday, April 23, at a Library Conference-Tea attended by 100. Speakers were Charles G. Burns, Principal of Northwestern High School; Mrs. Lois Place, Supervisor of School Libraries of Detroit and Professor of Library Science, Wayne University; Ruth Rutzen, Chief, Circulation Department, Detroit Public Library; George Gilfillan, Assistant Director, Reference Department, Detroit News, and President of the Michigan Chapter, S.L.A.

Ralph A. Ulveling, Librarian, Detroit Public Library, has been invited to become a member of the Commission on Post-War Training and Adjustment of the Institute of Adult Education, and will attend a meeting of the commission in New York City, May 21 and 22.

The institute is making plans for a national study of educational problems which will have to be met after the war, both with regard to demobilized individuals and the civilians released by war industries. The newly formed commission will bring together nationally known educators and others concerned with such problems and will work with the United States Office of Education Wartime Commission. It is expected that findings of this study will be made available in published form.

Personal and Personnel

Andre S. Nielsen joined the staff of the Grand Rapids Public Library on March 1, 1942, as head of the Reference Division which includes the reference department and a new department of science and useful arts to be organized the latter part of this year. Mr. Nielsen comes to Grand Rapids from the Lincoln Library of Springfield, Illinois, with a previous background of business and library experience.

Odin Anderson, a graduate of the Michigan Department of Library Science in 1940, has been appointed Research Librarian for the University of Michigan School of Public Health.

Anna E. Bychinsky has resigned her position as Assistant in the Catalog Department of Marygrove College Library, Detroit, to

accept an appointment at Wayne University Library.

New members added to the staff of the Michigan State Library within the last few months are: Catherine Applecrist, formerly of the Flint Public School Library; Lucy Bassett, from the Hastings Public Library; and Johanna Wiese, a graduate of the University of Michigan Library School and former staff member of the University of Michigan and Detroit Public libraries.

Joseph A. Groesbeck, of the reference staff of the University Library, Ann Arbor, and Circulation Manager of *The Michigan Librarian*, has been called into service. Stationed at Camp Niantic, Connecticut. Mr.

Groesbeck is in training for military police work assigned to guard our war production plants.

Ruby Karstad has become librarian of the Junior College and Wright High School in Ironwood, succeeding Leone Mayer who resigned in April. Miss Karstad has a Bachelor's Degree from St. Olaf College and a Bachelor's Degree in library science from the University of Minnesota.

Arthur Yabroff, Advertising Manager of *The Michigan Librarian*, is on leave of absence from the Detroit Public Library and holds a position in defense work.

Jeanne Griffin has accepted the librarianship of the Kalamazoo Public Library.

M. L. A. Slate of Officers for 1942-1943

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS

ACCORDING to the revised constitution of the Michigan Library Association, nominations and elections are conducted as follows:

"ARTICLE III SECTION 2. *Nominations.* The Nominating Committee shall nominate candidates for the positions of First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer; for two members of the Executive Board; for Councilor (or Councilors) to the A.L.A.; and to fill vacancies.

"The Nominating Committee shall report nominations to the Secretary not less than six months prior to the annual meeting. Nominations shall be published by the Secretary in the official publication of the Association not less than four months before the annual meeting.

"Nominations other than those by the Nominating Committee, signed by not less than ten members of the Association, shall be filed with the Secretary not less than three months before the annual meeting and must be accompanied by written consent of the nominee.

"SECTION 3. *Elections.* Elections to elective positions for the Association shall be made by mail vote in such manner as the Executive Board shall determine. The candidate receiving the largest number of votes shall be elected. In case of a tie vote, the successful

candidate shall be determined by lot."

CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE

The Nominating Committee of the Michigan Library Association present the following candidates for office in the Association for the year 1942-1943.

First Vice-President: Cecil J. McHale, Department of Library Science, University of Michigan; Mary Crowther, Public Library, Monroe.

Second Vice-President: Phyllis S. Rankin, Peter White Public Library, Marquette; Maxine Sprague, Northern Michigan College of Education Library, Marquette.

Secretary: Mrs. Ione M. Dority, Bureau of Government Library, University of Michigan; Mrs. Lodisca P. Alway, Director of State Aid, Lansing.

Treasurer: Madeline Dunn, Wayne County Library, Detroit; Florence Severs, Public Library, Grosse Pointe.

Executive Board (Vote for two): Virginia Summers, Public Library, Lansing; Hazel M. De Meyer, High School Library, Holland; Margaret Chapman, Public Library, Coldwater; Dorothy Dowsett, Public Library, Jackson.

A.L.A. Councilors: None to be elected this year.

BEULAH ISLES, *Chairman*
M.L.A. Nominating Committee

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